



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**Response Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 Expedited Procedure**

**In re application of:** Pope *et al.*

**Application No.** 10/009,698

**Filed:** December 5, 2001

**Confirmation No.** 1330

**For:** COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR  
DETECTING SYPHILIS USING  
SYNTHETIC ANTIGENS

**Examiner:** Khatol S. Shannan Shah

**Art Unit:** 1645

**Attorney Reference No.** 6395-61750

MAIL STOP AF  
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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this paper and the documents referred to as being attached or enclosed herewith are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP AF, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

Attorney  
for Applicant(s)

*Debra Gordin*

Date Mailed March 2, 2004

MAR 09 2004

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

This Amendment and Response to Final Office Action ("Amendment") is filed in response to the final Office action, dated December 3, 2003 ("Office Action"). A three-month period for reply was set, making a response due on or before March 3, 2003. It is believed that no fees are required in connection with this filing; however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees that may be required to the deposit account referenced on the accompanying transmittal letter.

Please amend the claims as set forth beginning on page 2. Remarks begin on page 5 of this Amendment. The Conclusion of this Amendment is on page 12. An exhibit is attached following page 13.